Mridanga Saileswari Temple, Muzhakkunnu, Kannur, Kerala

Ref: ChatGpt

1. Location and Address

Temple Name: Sree Mridanga Saileswari Temple
Place: Muzhakkunnu (also spelled Muzhukkunnu / Muzhakkunnu), Kannur District, Kerala
Nearby Town: Iritty / Mattannur side
District: Kannur
State: Kerala
PIN: 670673 (approx. for locality)

Address (commonly used):
Sree Mridanga Saileswari Temple
Muzhakkunnu, Kannur District
Kerala – 670673

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2. How to Reach

By Road

- From **Kannur town**: about **38–45 km**
- From **Mattannur**: about **18–22 km**
- From **Iritty**: about **10–15 km**
- KSRTC and private buses available to Muzhakkunnu.

By Rail

- **Nearest railway station:** Kannur Railway Station
- Also can use **Thalassery** station.

By Air

- **Nearest airport:** Kannur International Airport (Mattannur)
- Distance: about **15–20 km**

By Taxi / Auto

- Easily available from:
  - Mattannur
  - Iritty
  - Kannur Airport

3. Greatness and Spiritual Importance

Sree Mridanga Saileswari Temple is:

- One of the **ancient and highly revered Devi temples of North Kerala**
- Associated with:
  - **music**
  - **dance**
  - **arts**
  - **Shakti worship**

The Goddess is believed to:

- bless devotees with:
  - peace
  - courage
  - success
  - relief from difficulties

The temple is especially famous for:

- **Bhagavathy worship**
- traditional Kerala temple culture
- serene hill surroundings

4. Legends and History

Main Legend

- It is believed that the temple has a deep connection with:
  - **Parasurama Kshetra traditions**
  - ancient Kerala Devi worship

Musical Association

- The name **"Mridanga Saileswari"** is traditionally interpreted as:
  - **Goddess of the hill (Saila) associated with Mridangam / divine sound**
- Local belief says:
  - celestial music and divine vibrations were once experienced here.

Historical Background

- Temple is considered:
  - several centuries old
  - an important spiritual center in Kannur region
- The temple follows:
  - traditional Kerala Tantric rituals.

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5. Temple Architecture

Temple features:

- classic Kerala temple style
- tiled / copper roof sanctum
- nalambalam (inner courtyard)
- deepastambham
- chuttambalam

Atmosphere:

- calm, green, peaceful
- ideal for meditation and prayer

Special:

- beautiful hill setting enhances spiritual feel

6. Main Deity

Presiding Deity

Sree Mridanga Saileswari Devi (Bhagavathy)

Form:

- powerful mother goddess
- compassionate protector

Blessings sought for:

- health
- education
- marriage
- family peace
- prosperity

7. Sub-Deities

Commonly worshipped:

- Lord Ganapathy
- Lord Shiva
- Nagaraja / serpent deities
- Sastha (in some shrines)
- guardian deities

(Sub-shrines may vary slightly.)

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8. Daily Temple Timings and Poojas

Typical Timings

Morning: 5:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Evening: 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

(Timings may vary on festival days.)

Daily Rituals

- Nirmalyam
- Abhishekam
- Ganapathy Homam
- Usha Pooja
- Pantheeradi Pooja
- Ucha Pooja
- Deeparadhana
- Athazha Pooja

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9. Special Poojas / Offerings

Common offerings may include:

- Archana
- Pushpanjali

- Bhagavathy Seva: ₹100+
- Chuttuvilakku: ₹500+

Important: charges can change often.

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10. Festivals

Main Festivals

Annual Temple Festival

- celebrated grandly with:
  - melam
  - traditional rituals
  - procession

Navaratri

Very important:

- Devi worship
- special poojas
- music / devotional events

Thalappoli / Pooram style events

- women and children participate

Vijayadashami

- Vidyarambham for children

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11. Facilities for Devotees

Available / generally expected:

- prasadam counter
- parking
- drinking water
- clean premises
- queue system

Possible:

- annadanam during festivals

Accommodation

- limited or no major stay inside temple campus usually.
- nearby stay:
  - Iritty
  - Mattannur
  - Kannur

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12. Donation Details

Temple may accept:

- cash donation
- vazhipadu sponsorship
- festival donation

For bank account / UPI:

Please contact temple office directly because:

- bank details may change
- safer to verify official source

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13. Temple Contact / Phone

Reliable public phone numbers are sometimes not consistently updated online.

Best way:

- contact:
  - Muzhakkunnu temple office directly
  - local devaswom / temple committee
  - Kannur district temple info sources

You may also ask:

- exact pooja charges
- room availability
- festival dates

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14. Nearby Temples

- Parassinikadavu Muthappan Temple
- Kottiyoor Mahadeva Temple
- Thaliparamba Rajarajeshwara Temple
- Madayi Kavu
- Trichambaram Temple

15. Nearby Tourist Attractions

- Paithalmala hills
- Palchuram waterfalls region
- Kannur beaches
- Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary
- Muzhappilangad Drive-in Beach

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16. Nearby Budget Hotels

In Iritty

- small lodges and budget stays

In Mattannur

- airport-side budget hotels

In Kannur

- wider choice:
  - lodges
  - budget hotels
  - mid-range stay

17. Useful Tips for Devotees

- wear modest traditional dress
- avoid rush during festival peak if elderly
- confirm:
  - pooja timing
  - temple open hours
  - special darshan dates before travel

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Ref: Google Gemini

Sree Mridanga Saileswari Temple, Muzhakkunnu

The **Sree Mridanga Saileswari Temple** is one of the 108 Durga temples in Kerala, believed to have been consecrated by **Lord Parasurama**. It is uniquely celebrated as a center for arts and music, particularly the *Mridangam*.

1. Location & Contact Information

- **Address:** P.O. Muzhakkunnu, Peravoor (via), Kannur District, Kerala – 670673.
- **Phone:** +91 99614 06408 / 0490 2406408
- **How to Get There:**
    - **By Road:** Located in Muzhakkunnu, near Kakkayngad. It is well-connected by local buses from Iritty and Peravoor.
    - **By Rail:** The nearest major railway station is **Kannur (CAN)**, approximately 50 km away.
    - **By Air:** The nearest airport is **Kannur International Airport (CNN)**, about 20-25 km from the temple.

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2. History & Legends

- **The Divine Descent:** Legend says that a divine *Mridangam* (percussion instrument) fell from heaven to this spot. The Goddess emerged from her meditation to catch it, and the sound of the instrument is said to resonate in the temple's atmosphere.
- **Pazhassi Raja:** The temple was the *Kuladevata* (family deity) of the **Kottayam Royal Family**. The legendary freedom fighter **Veera Pazhassi Raja** used to worship here regularly.
- **The Miracle of the Thieves:** The temple gained modern fame after stories emerged of thieves attempting to steal the idol. It is said they were unable to leave the temple premises due to paranormal occurrences, eventually returning the idol themselves.

3. Architecture & Deities

- **Architecture:** Built in the traditional Kerala style with a *Sreekovil* (sanctum sanctorum), *Namaskara Mandapam*, and a *Chuttambalam*.
- **Main Deity: Goddess Durga**, worshipped here in the form of **Mridanga Saileswari**. She is seen as a four-armed deity holding a conch and discus. Depending on the devotee's prayer, she is worshipped as **Saraswati** (knowledge/arts), **Lakshmi** (prosperity), or **Parvati**.
- **Sub-Deities:**
    - **Mizhavil Bhagavathi:** Resides in a secret sanctum (restricted to the public).
    - **Porkali/Chamunda:** Located outside the main complex.
    - **Lord Ganesha** and **Lord Dakshinamurthy**.

4. Rituals, Poojas & Charges

The temple follows traditional Kerala tantric rituals.

Pooja Type	Purpose	Approx. Charge (₹)
Pushpanjali	General offering	15
Saraswatha Pushpanjali	For education and arts	30
Swayamvara Pushpanjali	For marriage prospects	30
Ney Vilakku	Ghee lamp offering	20
Sahasranamarchana	Chanting of 1000 names	30

Note: Charges are subject to change by the Devaswom board.

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5. Festivals & Facilities

- **Navaratri:** The most significant festival, where thousands of artists perform *Vidyarambham* (initiation into learning).
- **Pooram:** Celebrated in the Malayalam month of Meenam.
- **Facilities:** The temple provides basic amenities for devotees. While there is no major Devaswom-run lodging inside the complex, there are several "Oottupura" (dining halls) for ritual feasts.

6. Donation & Bank Details

For those wishing to contribute to temple maintenance or offerings:

- **Bank:** South Indian Bank, Iritty Branch
- **Account Name:** The Executive Officer, Sri Mrudanga Syleswari Kshetram
- **Account No:** 0611073000000128
- **IFSC Code:** SIBL0000611

7. Nearby Attractions & Hotels

- **Nearby Temples:**
    - **Rajarajeswara Temple**, Taliparamba (Lord Shiva).
    - **Peralassery Subramanya Temple** (famous for its stepwell).
    - **Parassinikadavu Muthappan Madapura**.

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- **Tourist Spots:**
    - **Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary** (approx. 20 km).
    - **Pazhassi Dam**.
- **Budget Hotels:**
    - **Broad Bean Hotel**, Kakayangad (approx. 4 km).
    - **Nelleri Residency**, Muzhakkunnu.
    - Local homestays and lodges are available in **Iritty** town (approx. 10 km).

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Some more details on: history and legends, architecture,daily rituals and their charges, special poojas and their charges, famous festivals in this temple..etc,:

1. Deep Dive: History & Legends

The temple's history is a blend of divine origin and royal patronage:

- **The Fallen Mridangam:** Legend states that the percussion instrument *Mridangam* fell from the heavens at this location. A physical indentation in the ground where it purportedly struck is still preserved and revered by devotees today.
- **Origin of "Muzhakkunnu":** The name is derived from *Muzhakkam* (reverberation) and *Kunnu* (hill), referring to the divine echoes heard across the hill after the instrument fell.
- **Kathakali Connection:** This temple is considered the birthplace of **Kottayam-style Kathakali**. The scholar-king **Kottayathu Thampuran** composed four of the most fundamental Kathakali plays (*Bakavadham*, *Kirmeeravadham*, *Kalyana Saugandhikam*, and *Nivathakavacha Kalakeyavadham*) while meditating in this temple's premises.
- **The Porkali Warrior Spirit:** The Goddess is also worshipped as **Sree Porkali** (the Kali of *Por* or war). Historically, kings of the Purali dynasty and the legendary **Pazhassi Raja** would perform rituals here to seek victory before heading into battle.

2. Architectural Highlights

The temple reflects classic **Kerala Temple Architecture**, characterized by timber structures and tiled roofs:

- **Sreekovil (Sanctum):** The main sanctum is a rectangular structure housing the Panchaloha idol of the Goddess. Uniquely, there is a **Secret Inner Sanctum** dedicated to *Mizhavil Bhagavathi*, which is strictly off-limits to the public.
- **The Indentation:** Within the temple complex, devotees can see the specific spot where the divine Mridangam is said to have landed, which remains a slightly sunken area.
- **Guha (Cave) Temple:** To the west of the main shrine, remnants of an ancient cave temple exist, once used for intense meditation and secret royal rituals.

3. Daily Rituals & Timings

The temple follows a strict schedule of "Nivedyam" and prayers:

- **Darshan Timings:** * Morning: 5:00 AM – 12:30 PM
    - Evening: 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

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- **Key Rituals:**
    - **Usha Pooja:** 7:00 AM (Dawn prayers)
    - **Uchha Pooja:** 11:00 AM (Noon prayers)
    - **Deeparadhana:** Aligned with sunset (approx. 6:30 PM)
    - **Athazha Pooja:** 7:15 PM (Evening meal/concluding prayers)

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4. Pooja Charges (Estimated)

The temple offers several specialized *Pushpanjalis* (flower offerings). Prices are approximate and based on Devaswom standards:

Pooja Name	Purpose	Charge (₹)
Sathru Samhara Pushpanjali	Protection from enemies/obstacles	30
Bhagya Suktha Pushpanjali	For good fortune	30
Sreesooktha Pushpanjali	For prosperity	30
Durithahara Pushpanjali	To remove sufferings	30
Ariyilezhuthu	Initiation for kids (Vidyarambham)	100
Vahana Pooja	Blessing of a vehicle	200
Choroon	First feeding ceremony of a baby	100
Thalicharthal	Traditional offering for women	30

5. Famous Festivals

- **Navaratri Mahotsavam (Sept/Oct):** The most celebrated event. The final three days—**Durgashtami, Mahanavami, and Vijayadashami**—draw massive crowds. Musicians and artists perform here as an offering to the Goddess of Arts.

- **Pooram Mahotsavam (March/April):** Celebrated in the Malayalam month of *Meenam*. It involves traditional percussion ensembles (*Chenda Melam*) and grand processions.
- **Kathakali Festivals:** Periodically, the temple hosts elaborate Kathakali performances to honor its historical connection to the art form.

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The history of the **Purali Dynasty** (later known as the **Kottayam Royal Family**) is indeed a gripping saga of warrior-scholars and defiant resistance.

For your research, here is a concise history of the dynasty that once ruled over the hills of North Malabar.

1. Origins: Puraikiznad to Puranad

The dynasty originally ruled a region known as **Puraikiznad** (meaning "the land of the mountains"). Over centuries:

- **The Name:** The kings were historically addressed as *Puralikshamabhritt* (Lord of the Purali Mountain) in medieval Sanskrit texts.
- **The Transition:** As their influence grew, the kingdom became known as **Kottayam** (derived from *Kotta* + *Akam*, meaning "inside the fort").
- **Lunar Lineage:** They claim descent from the legendary King Yayati and are traditionally referred to as **Brahma-Kshatriyas**—a rare class of warrior-scholars.

2. The Warrior-Scholar Kings

The Purali kings were unique because they were expected to be as skilled in the arts as they were in warfare.

- ***Kottayathu Thampuran (The Vidwan Thampuran): A defining figure who transformed* **Kathakali**. He was the one who famously wrote the four foundational plays (*Attakathas*) at the Mridanga Saileswari Temple.
- **Porkali Worship:** Before every military campaign, the Purali kings would offer prayers to **Goddess Porkali** (the warrior form of Durga). This tradition was so vital that it is recorded in ancient Malayalam literary works like the *Kokila Sandesham*.

3. The Resistance: Veera Pazhassi Raja

The most famous scion of this dynasty was **Veera Kerala Varma Pazhassi Raja**, popularly known as the **"Lion of Kerala."**

- **The Guerilla War:** When the British East India Company imposed heavy taxes and ignored royal traditions, Pazhassi Raja took to the jungles of **Wayanad** and **Puralimala**.
- **Strategic Hub:** He used the rugged terrain around the Mridanga Saileswari Temple as a strategic hideout.

- **The End of a Dynasty:** Following his death in 1805, the British annexed the kingdom into the Malabar District, effectively ending the political reign of the Purali line.

4. Historical Landmarks

If your readers are interested in physical sites, you could highlight:

- **Harischandra Fort:** Located atop Puralimala, this ancient fort was built by **Harischandra Perumal** of the Purali dynasty.
- **The Cave Temple:** A hidden cave temple used by the Purali kings for secret rituals and as a refuge during the wars with the British.

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SREE MRIDANGA SAILESWARI TEMPLE, MUZHAKKUNNU, KANNUR

1. LOCATION, ADDRESS, PHONE & WEBSITE

Address: Mridanga Shaileswary Temple Road, Muzhakkunnu, Kerala – 670703 (Temples of Kerala)

Phone (Office): 04902 406 408

Mobile: +91 99614 06408

Email: mridangasaileswari@gmail.com

Website: www.mridangasaileswaritemple.org

The temple is situated on top of Muzhakkunnu hill, which has the shape of a Mridangam. (U.A. Satish)

2. HOW TO GET THERE

By Air: Kannur International Airport is 21.1 km (about 36 minutes) from the temple and is the nearest airport. (U.A. Satish)

By Train: Thalassery Railway Station is 35.7 km (about 1 hour) from the temple. Kannur Railway Station is 44.6 km (about 1 hr 17 min) away. (U.A. Satish)

By Road: From Kannur: Mattannur → Thillankeri → Muzhakkunnu (~40 km). From Taliparamba: Irikkur → Iritty → Kakkayangad → Muzhakkunnu (~40 km). From Thalassery: Koothuparamba → Uruvachal → Thillankeri → Muzhakkunnu (~40 km). (Keralatemplesbooking)

Frequent KSRTC and private buses are available from Mattannur, Iritty, and Koothuparamba. Taxis are also available from railway stations and the airport.

3. GREATNESS OF THIS TEMPLE

This is one of the most famous Devi temples in Kerala and is unique as it is dedicated to a musical instrument — the Mridangam. It was the family deity of the brave king Veera Pazhassi Raja. (Blue Bird Travels)

Mridanga Shaileshwari acts as the patron of music, arts, and all kinds of knowledge. She can be worshipped as Saraswati, Parvati, Lakshmi, or Chandi depending upon the need. The power of Saraswati — knowledge — is said to be predominant here. (Wikipedia)

Lakhs of visitors pour in from far and wide. The temple is tucked in the valley of the Purali hills, and the powerful Devi is said to encircle devotees with a feeling of divine protection. (Tripadvisor)

4. LEGENDS AND HISTORY

According to legend, when the divine Mridangam descended from the heavens, Goddess Saileswari rose from her meditation to catch it, creating a pit on the spot — which remains to this day. As the falling instrument created echoes in the mountain, the place came to be called Mridanga Sailam, and the village came to be known as Muzhakkunnu — "the mountain that echoes." (Blue Bird Travels)

The temple is one of the 108 Durga temples of ancient Kerala believed to have been installed by Parashurama, the sixth avatar of Lord Vishnu. (Wikipedia)

It was at this temple that the renowned Kottayathu Thampuran composed famous Kathakali plays such as Bakavadham, Kirmeeravadham, Kalyanasaugandhikam, and Nivathakavacha Kalakeyavadham. (Kerala Tourism)

The temple gained national prominence when Alexander Jacob, a retired DGP of Kerala Police, revealed a fascinating story in a television interview. He said thieves tried to steal the temple idol three times but each time returned it themselves due to strange paranormal activity. From that day onwards thousands of devotees began visiting the temple every day. (Wikipedia)

5. ARCHITECTURE OF THE TEMPLE

The temple follows the distinctive Kerala style of architecture. The main construction materials are laterite stones, wood, and red tiles. The skeletal framework of the temple is wooden while the base and structure are of granite and laterite. (U.A. Satish)

The temple has a Sreekovil (two-tiered sanctum), Namaskara Mandapam, Chuttambalam, and a pond. Visitors can also see a statue of King Pazhassi Raja on the temple premises. (Astroved)

6. MAIN DEITY

The main deity is Durga, also called Mizhavil Bhagavathi. She exists as Chandi and Chamunda in this temple, and exhibits herself as Saraswati — called Mridanga Shaileshwari

— in the main sanctum, with a predominant power of knowledge and blessings of skill in arts. (Wikipedia)

The principal deity is in the form of a four-armed Durga, with two upper hands holding a conch and chakra, the front right hand blessing devotees, and the front left hand on her waist. Mridanga Saileswari is worshipped as Goddess Saraswati, patron of music, arts, and knowledge. (U.A. Satish)

7. SUB-DEITIES

Chamunda (also called Porkali) is the sub-deity, worshipped outside the main temple complex. There are also Upa Devatas (minor deities) within the temple premises. (Astroved) Ganapathi and Dakshinamoorthy shrines are also present inside the main temple. There is a separate sanctum called Mizhavil Bhagavathi Sthaanam which is prohibited to the public. (Blue Bird Travels)

8. DAILY TIMINGS

The temple is open from 5:00 AM to 12:30 PM and 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. (U.A. Satish)

Daily Poojas:

Usha Pooja (Morning Prayer): 7:00 AM

Uchha Pooja (Noon): 11:00 AM

Atthazha Pooja (Evening): 7:15 PM

Deeparadhana (Aarthi): at sunset

9. POOJAS/VAZHIPADUKAL AND THEIR CHARGES (₹)

These are from the temple's official website:

Pooja / Offering	Charge (₹)
Pushpanjali	15
Bhagya Suktha / Swayamvara / Durithahara / Sreesookatha / Saraswatha Pushpanjali	30 each
Kumkumarchana	20
Ney Vilakku (Ghee lamp)	20
Enna Vilakku (Oil lamp)	15
Checki Mala / Thulasi Mala	20 each

Karuka Mala	30
Ney Payasam	50
Palpayasam	30
Sarkara Payasam	35
Katum Payasam	100
Nithyapuja (Daily pooja)	500
Thrikala Puja	750
Mandala Puja	1,000
Niramala	1,500
Niramala (Visheshal/Special)	3,000
Alankara Puja	5,000
Ganapathi Homam (small)	150
Ganapathi Homam (Ashtadravyam)	350
Mrithyunjaya Homam	150
Karuka Homam	50
Appam Nivedyam (after Athazha Puja)	300
Deepasthambham (small)	500
Deepasthambham (large)	2,500
Choroon (rice feeding ceremony)	100
Ariyilezhuth (learning ritual)	100
Vahana Puja	200
Thulabharam	200
Thalicharthal	30
Aayilya Pooja (monthly)	100
Thookku Vilakku Samarpanam	2,500
Silver votive offerings (Aal Rupam, Thala, Kannu, Kai, Navu)	20 each

Poojas can be booked online at the temple website. No service charge is collected for online booking except shipping charges for prasadam.

10. FESTIVALS

Navaratri: The last three days — Ashtami, Navami, and Vijayadashami — are dedicated to the worship of Saraswati. On Vijayadashami, children come for Vidyarambham (initiation into education). Pooram Mahotsavam is celebrated on the Pooram star in the Malayalam month of Meenam (March–April). The annual Kathakali festival is held on Vishu day (around April 15). (Astroved)

During Pooram Mahotsavam, the highlight is the Meenam Kodiyettam (grand ceremonial flag hoisting), followed by special poojas and culminating in the sacred Arattu procession. (Temples of Kerala)

Performances of Thayambaka and Poorakkali, traditional and martial art forms, mark the Pooram festival. (U.A. Satish)

11. FACILITIES FOR DEVOTEES

Annadanam (Free meals): Offered on Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. (Tripadvisor)

Prasadam: Ney Payasam is a popular prasadam available for purchase at the temple.

Online Pooja Booking: Available through the temple website.

Homestay near temple: A homestay very near the temple is available — spacious rooms, electricity backup, reasonable rates. Contact: Chandran – 9847071393 or Hymavathy – 9496904680. (No food and no AC available.) (Tripadvisor)

Dress code: Men can wear mundu, veshti, or pants. Women may wear saree, skirt, or salwar kameez. Boys can wear shorts. (U.A. Satish)

12. DONATION INFO AND BANK ACCOUNT

Donations can be transferred directly to the temple's official accounts:

Bank 1 – South Indian Bank, Iritty

A/C Name: The Executive Officer, Sri Mrudanga Syleswari Kshetram

A/C No: 0611073000000128

IFSC: SIBL0000611

Bank 2 – HDFC Bank, Mattannur

A/C Name: The Executive Officer, Sri Mrudanga Syleswari Kshetram

A/C No: 50100391121419

IFSC: HDFC0002321

The temple (Sree Mridangasaileswari Devaswom) is a Public Religious Institution under the Malabar Devaswom Board, Kozhikode, Government of Kerala. (Mridangasaileswaritemple)

13. NEARBY TEMPLES

Some notable temples in Kannur district close to this area include: Rajarajeswara Temple, Taliparamba (ancient Shiva temple); Thodeekulam Shiva Temple (~15 km, known for magnificent mural paintings, believed to be 2,000 years old); Thiruvangad Sree Ramaswamy Temple (one of five Rama temples in Kerala); Sree Subramanya Swami Temple, Payyanur; Trichambaram Sree Krishna Temple; Parassinikadavu Muthappan Temple (famous Theyyam temple on the banks of Valapattanam River); and Annapoorneshwari Temple, Cherukunnu. (Kerala Tourism)

14. OTHER TOURIST ATTRACTIONS NEARBY

Paithalmala – one of the most beautiful peaks in the Western Ghats at 4,500 ft, a popular trekking destination. Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary – close to the Muzhakkunnu area. Pazhassi Dam – a scenic picnic spot nearby. (Holidify)

Parassinikadavu Snake Park – one of the finest snake sanctuaries in Asia, home to over 150 species of reptiles. Arakkal Museum, Kannur – celebrates Kerala's only Muslim royal family. Kannur (Cannanore) Fort / St. Angelo's Fort – a Portuguese-era fort with panoramic sea views. (Holidify)

Payyambalam Beach, Kannur – a beautiful and popular beach. Muzhappilangad Drive-in Beach – one of the longest drive-in beaches in Asia. (Holidify)

15. NEARBY BUDGET HOTELS

The temple is in a rural area. The nearest town with hotels is Iritty (8 km), Mattannur (~15 km), and Koothuparamba (~20 km). **Some options:**

JK Residency, Kelakam – well reviewed, centrally located in the hill town of Kelakam. Fortune Avenue, Mattannur – has a restaurant, on Thalassery-Coorg highway, very close to Kannur International Airport. Lyndas Residency – well-reviewed for comfortable rooms. (Tripadvisor)

For budget stays, lodges and homestays are available in Iritty and Mattannur towns. The homestay right near the temple (contact above) is the most convenient and affordable option for pilgrims.

16. BEST TIME TO VISIT

October to March is ideal due to pleasant weather. Avoid the monsoon season (June to September) due to heavy rainfall that may disrupt travel plans. (OneIndia)

17. OTHER USEFUL INFO

No entry fee for visiting the temple.

The Neyvilakku (ghee lamp) is considered the most important offering here.

The temple website offers online pooja booking and prasadam delivery by post.

The Kathakali festival on Vishu is a major cultural highlight worth attending if you visit in April.

A statue of King Pazhassi Raja is located in the temple premises.

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Ref: [mridangasaileswaritemple.org]

This is the official website of the temple. See this for detailed info on the temple.

Here, only some info from the website is given:

Map:

Sree Mridanga shaileshwari Temple
WMCR+V9W, Mridanga Shaileswary Temple Rd, Muzhakkunnu, Kerala 670673, India
4.7 ★ (3,890)
Avila Sadan,Church
ആവില സദൻ,ചർച്ച്
Iritty
ഇരിട്ടി
Velimanam
വെളിമാനം
Aralam Bridge
ആറളം പാലം
Aralam
ആറളം
Aralam Farm
Muzhakkunnu
മുഴക്കുന്ന്
Mattannur
മട്ടന്നൂർ
Thillankeri
തില്ലങ്കേരി
Sree Mridanga shaileshwari Temple
Puralimala View Point
പുരളിമല വ്യൂ പോയിന്റ്
Sivapuram
ശിവപുരം
Manathana
മണത്തണ
Peravoor
പേരാവൂർ
Kolakkad
Thodikkalam Shiva Temple
തൊടിക്കളം ശിവ ക്ഷേത്രം
Google
Narayanamangalam

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Photos

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Videos

Mridanga Saileswari temple (22 min):

https://youtu.be/A02xkpzU4_M?si=2stQ_7oELfhPoNv1

Story of Mridanga Saileswari temple (10 min):

https://youtu.be/7e6kIdXpPH8?si=zLKcaZcWbfkTo1u5

Mridanga Saileswari temple…travelogue (7 min):

https://youtu.be/2dFZIHGy0M0?si=zVK63fpoZwkybyqH

Mridanga Saileswari temple..FaceBook (2 min):

https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1RqD4CrqJt/

Mridanga Saileswari temple…FaceBook (19 min);

https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1Zx2tnB8kC/

Mridanga Saileswari Devi devotional songs (1 hr 3 min):

https://youtu.be/_vITK2GlZ3Q?si=FqG45_yOFjjV56Ht

Miracle Mridanga Saileswari temple (5 min):

https://youtu.be/Us1-f9UMm1A?si=AljoPH_KkWaUE3Xc

Sri Mridanga Saileswari temple (5 min):https://youtu.be/ai4FTcncM5k?si=NIPNjvpBwFwQ

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About the Author

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar is a Mechanical Engineer with specialization in Cryogenics. He obtained his B. E. In Mechanical Engineering from Karnataka Regional Engg College, (Now NITK), Surathkal, India and M.Sc. in Cryogenics from the University of Southampton, U.K., and Ph.D. from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore.

He has worked in prestigious organizations such as BARC, Bombay and Centre for Advanced Technology (CAT), Indore,as Head of Cryogenics Dept and contributed to the design of cryogenic systems, including the Thermovac chamber for ISRO, Bangalore.

He was also a visiting fellow at Superconducting Super Collider Project, at Texas, USA.

He has also served as Professor, Head of Department, and Principal in reputed engineering institutions.

Dr. Thirumaleshwar has authored a large number of FREE ebooks on Engineering subjects such as Thermodynamics, Heat Transfer, and Cryogenic Engineering, which are useful for students and teachers.

Driven by a deep interest in India's spiritual heritage, he has also authored many FREE ebooks on Temples, Saints, Gurus, and Vedic topics, with the aim of preserving and spreading this knowledge to future generations.

All his ebooks are available for free download at Archive.org.

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Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar
April 10, 2026

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